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Dated: February 1, 2005

Signature: Monica L. Thomas

(Monica L. Thomas)

Docket No.: HO-P01899US3
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Huda Y. Zoghbi et al.

Application No.: 09/980,381

Filed: June 1, 2000

Art Unit: 1632

For: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE
THERAPEUTIC USE OF AN ATONAL-
ASSOCIATED SEQUENCE FOR DEAFNESS,
OSTEOARTHRITIS AND ABNORMAL CELL
PROLIFERATION

Examiner: Wilson, Michael C.

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This submission accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), a Petition for Extension of Time of One Month, and the requisite fees. It is in response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2004 (Paper No. 092004), finally rejecting claims 48 and 55-57 and also in response to the Advisory Action mailed December 8, 2004. Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.